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# THE SOUTH CAROLINA HISTORICAL AND GENEALOGICAL MAGAZINE

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## LETTERS OF JOHN RUTLEDGE

Annotated by JOSEPH W. BARNWELL

*(Continued from the July Number)*

Mr. Dawsons, Wateree Sep. 18<sup>th</sup>. 1781

Gent:—

On the 13<sup>th</sup>. Inst. I rec<sup>d</sup>. you Letter, of the 4<sup>th</sup> ult<sup>o</sup>, by Col. Scott—I am glad to hear that the loan (the repayment of which Congress guaranteed,) for the Benefit of the poor S<sup>o</sup>. Carolina Refugees,<sup>1</sup> was speedily obtained, & in Philad<sup>a</sup>.—But I think, it w<sup>d</sup> be well to recommend to many of them, to go to Fred<sup>k</sup>., or Hagars' Town, in Maryland—they may live there, at an 8<sup>th</sup>. of the Expense they do in Philad<sup>a</sup>.—House Rent, in particular, being very high in that City—However, I hope, from our Acco<sup>ts</sup>. of the French W. India Fleet, & 6000 Land Forces, being arrived, in Chesapeake We shall, soon, restore our friends, to their possessions in C. Town for, New York must fall, if our Allies will but remain long enough before it, (& they can<sup>t</sup>. have a more important

<sup>1</sup> Under an order published June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1781 by Col. Balfour commanding at Charleston, the families of absent Whigs were directed to "quit the town" by August 1st. They were assisted by the loan referred to in this letter (McCrady 1780-1783, page 375). They were said to number 670 men, women and children, and 71 servants. The loan was never subscribed or paid in full, but was of great assistance to the exiles.

Object)<sup>2</sup>—Our Capital must be the next, for their co-operation—In the mean time, however, it w<sup>d</sup>. be well to block up that Harbour,<sup>3</sup> & prevent any Navy from getting into or coming out of it—We will do our best to hinder the Garrison's getting Supplies from the Country—& surely, from such a considerable Fleet, a Number of Vessels, sufficient for that purpose, may be spared, with<sup>t</sup>. Injury to the Northern operations—you will not fail to use your best endeavours to effect this Measure—pray send the Great Seal to me by the first safe Conveyance—

By this Express, Congress will receive, from Gen<sup>l</sup>. Greene, an official Acco<sup>t</sup>. of Marions late Enterprise,<sup>4</sup> to the Southward, & of the Victory at Eutaw—It is therefore unnecessary for me to say any thing on these Points—I sent to Col<sup>o</sup>. Harden, for, &, a few days, ago rec<sup>d</sup>., Copies of the several Letters, & a Memd<sup>m</sup>. of the Messages, which passed between Col<sup>o</sup>. Hayne, during the Time of his Confinem<sup>t</sup>., & Lord Rawden & Balfour; The Col<sup>o</sup>. Son having bro<sup>t</sup>. them out—on rec<sup>t</sup>. of 'em, I drew up a State of the Case, w<sup>ch</sup>. I sent to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Greene, who will transmit it, by this Convey<sup>e</sup>, to Congress, together with Balfour's Answer to the Generals Letter, on that Subject—the Excn' of Hayne<sup>5</sup> had the Effect w<sup>ch</sup> the Enemy foresaw, & expected, from that unparalled piece of Cruelty—&, indeed, a much greater Effect than you can conceive, for, a great many Protection Men, who had joined Harden, thereupon deserted him & again submitted themselves,

<sup>2</sup> See the letter of Governor Edward Rutledge to Washington just after his release from St. Augustine (this magazine, vol. 17, page 4), urging the employment of the French forces, after the fall of Cornwallis, in the recovery of Charles Town.

<sup>3</sup> The "blocking up" of Charleston harbor with hulks loaded with stone was tried during the Confederate War by the Federal Government, but without success.

<sup>4</sup> This referred to an expedition of Marion across the Santee to the aid of Col. Harden then in dire distress. It was effected with great skill and boldness. Major Fraser was ambuscaded near Parker's Ferry on the Edisto and forced to retreat until his reinforcements came up (McCrary, 1780-1783, page 439).

<sup>5</sup> The execution of Col. Isaac Hayne, under orders from Balfour and Lord Rawdon on August 4th, 1781, was a warning to the Whigs that any step however cruel would be taken to prevent the resumption of hostilities by those who had taken British protection. As a matter of fact, retaliation, though threatened by Greene, was never carried out.

to the British Government & Mercy, so that, when Marion went last, to the Southward, Harden had not 50 Men, in Arms, & had it not been, for Marions Appearance in that Quarter, & his Support & Countenance, at such a critical Period, Hardens Force w<sup>d</sup>. have been reduced much lower—Happily, his putting Fraser to flight, has given the Southward-Militia fresh Spirits—& Gen<sup>l</sup>. Greene's well timed Proclamation, & spirited Determination, in Consequence of Hayne's Death, has removed the Apprehensions of our Militia, (most of whom had taken Protection, especially those in the lower parts of the Country,) of suffering in like Manner, if taken Prisoners—This Measure, & the steps taken with our Militia, will, I hope, soon get a respectable Number into the Field—I have struck off the three Southw<sup>d</sup>. Reg<sup>ts</sup>. from Pickens' Brigade, intending to throw them into one, for Harden or Barnwell,<sup>6</sup> who is daily expected, & have brigaded the several other Regiments in more satisfactory & proper divisions, than they were—furnished the Brig<sup>ts</sup> w<sup>th</sup>. Extracts from such parts of our laws as are material for their Gov<sup>t</sup>. or Inform<sup>n</sup>. ordered 'em to be carried strictly into Excn'—the several Reg<sup>ts</sup>. to be, immediately fully officered, with the fittest Men in them—muster<sup>d</sup>—reviewed—& classed & drill<sup>d</sup>. & 1 3<sup>d</sup> marched, directly to Headquarters—

I have also ordered the Fines to be collected, in Specie, those w<sup>ch</sup>. may be laid under the Acct of 1778, at the same Value, in Specie, as Paper Money, & those w<sup>ch</sup>. may be imposed, under the Act of 1779, at the depreciations, or comparative Value of Specie, with Currency according to the Rates, acknowledged by the Legislature, who, in 1776, when Specie & Paper Money were of equal Value, established a Militia Man's pay at ten s. pr day, continued the same in 1778, (so that it may be presumed there was then no depreciation, at least there was no Legislative acknowledgement of any,) but, in 1779, raised it to 32 s pr day—thus for a Fine, under the last law, Offenders must pay £150 in Specie, instead of, (w<sup>t</sup> the Law mentions) £500 Curry' or go into Cont<sup>l</sup>. Service.

<sup>6</sup> Maj. John Barnwell (this magazine vol. 2, page 54) captured at the Fall of Charles Town, and not at Johns Island by the surprise of his Company, as stated in Johnson's Traditions (page 182). Indeed these Traditions are scarcely ever worthy of confidence.

The General informed me, when We parted a few days ago. (he being gone to the High Hills of Santee, & I shall not see him till after this Express is gone, tho', I am on my Way thither, but am obliged by Sickness, to travel very slowly, & to go round by Camden, as I can't. cross the Swamp here,) that he w<sup>d</sup>. send his proclamation respecting Hayne, to Congress, for their Opinion—We have no Officer, of equal Rank, a Prisoner, &, it is not improbable, that the Gen<sup>l</sup>. may hear, from Congress, on this Head, before We get such an one, & our not having one, & the Militia's absolute Reliance, on the Gen<sup>ls</sup>. Engagement to retaliate, are the only causes of keeping 'em, satisfied—if such an officer was, in, or sh<sup>d</sup>. fall into, our Hands, the People w<sup>d</sup>. be clamorous, for his Execution, & hanged he must be—I hope there will be no difficulty, or doubt, with any member of Congress, ab<sup>t</sup>. approving the General's Proclamation, & of his having executed an Officer, for Hayne, if he shall have done so, before he hears from Congress, &, if he should not, of directing him to do so, & to retaliate, in every other Instance, as he has threat<sup>d</sup>.—With you I am sure there can be no Hesitation—I desire that you will use your utmost Efforts, to bring all the other Members into the same Sentiments, & obtain such a Resolve—Be assured, if it is not passed, the worst Consequences will ensue—The General will be grossly affronted—the Officers of the Continental Troops all of whom presented an Address to the Gen<sup>l</sup>, (on this Matter) which will ever do them great Honour will be digusted—The Enemy will reproach us, & very justly, w<sup>th</sup>. Timidity, as they often have done, on good Ground, & our Militia will be dispirited, & fall off—Indeed you cannot suppose, if the British offer 'em Pardon, for having joined us, (wch. they do, if they will quit us,) that they will adhere to our Cause, if We refuse to support 'em, by Retaliation, for any Injury they may receive, by so doing—The Gen<sup>l</sup>. expects to be supported in this Measure, & He certainly ought to be—I cannot therefore avoid repeating my earnest Desire, & Expectation, that you will, immediately, obtain the fullest Approbation of his Conduct, on this Point, & send the Resolve by a special & trusted Express, as soon as possible—

I think it w<sup>d</sup>. be wise & politick, in the several States, who are intitled to any of the Lands which the Vermonters wish for, to cede them that they might be formed into, or established

as, a separate State, but, I cannot believe that the Articles of confederation, (w<sup>ch</sup>. I have not here) give Congress any Right, (& unless they do, Congress, certainly have it not,) to erect an Independent State out of parts of the undoubted Territories of other States.<sup>7</sup>—It is a bad Precedent, which may affect the Peace of our present Governments, at some future day, & it is a Measure, w<sup>ch</sup>. Congress, I think w<sup>d</sup>. not hastily give into, from Motives of temporary Convenience, & short duration—The probability of reducing N. York, will, however, I presume occasion the Application to be rejected if not already granted—you will be pleased to attend to my Instructions, respecting Gillon, if fortunately he sh<sup>d</sup>. arrive, & to my several former Requisitions, particularly the giving me the speediest Intelligence, of every material Occurrence—I have been very prolix, & on some Matters rather fitter for a private Correspondent, to friends, than a publick or official Letter—However, I thought it w<sup>d</sup>. be satisfactory to you, & our other Carolinians, at Phil: to know every Thing of any Consequence, We are ab<sup>t</sup>. here.

I am wth. great Regard

Gent. yr. most Obed. Ser<sup>t</sup>.

J: Rutledge

P.S. I have appointed an ordinary for each of the Districts in this State, (C. Town included), suspended the Tender<sup>8</sup> Law & prohibited all Suits in the Court of Common Pleas, or before a Magistrate, under the Act for trial of small & mean Causes till 10 days after the next Sitting of the General Assembly.

High hills of Santee.

Oct<sup>r</sup> 4<sup>th</sup>. 1781.

Gentlemen.

I received by Mr. Wilkinson, the day before yesterday, your letters, of the 14<sup>th</sup> of August and of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ult<sup>o</sup>.—In consequence

<sup>7</sup> This question afterwards came up repeatedly in the Continental Congress after Rutledge was elected a member in 1782, and he always took the position which is taken in this letter. In the Constitutional Convention he opposed a State being divided except with its own consent (Madison Papers, page 1461).

<sup>8</sup> It will be seen from this letter what extensive powers were exercised by Governor Rutledge during the period when the whole Government of the State was centered in him.

of what you mention, in the last, I have made, & you will receive herewith, a new appointment of Delegates: that matter had not escaped my attention, but, I did not conceive it necessary, within, a year after the Confederation was finally ratified—I am glad to hear of Col<sup>o</sup>. John Laurens's Success<sup>9</sup>—it will convince many of what I have often said to you, that our not having rec<sup>d</sup>. more powerful Support & effectual Aid, from France, is to be attributed solely, to the want of proper application for it—I think it next to an impossibility, that the combined Forces in Virginia should fail in their Attempt on Cornwallis, &, if Charles-Town, should, as it ought, & I hope will, be, their next object, a short time will restore tranquillity to the southern States, &, in all probability honorable terms of Peace be speedily offered by Great Britain—

Several Persons are now employed in procuring Indigo,<sup>10</sup> on public account, (but keep this matter to yourselves)—it is impossible, as yet, to tell, with any degree of certainty, what Quantity will be obtained—

I have hitherto postponed a call of the Legislature, for the reasons heretofore mentioned to you, and, shall do so, until the arrival of the Council—when I know, (which I shall from them,) within what time Gentlemen who were members of the last House may be expected here, the expediency of an Election may be better judged of, than at present—But if the Forces now in Virginia should come against Charles-Town, it is most likely that the first meeting of an Assembly will be held there—I wish, much, however, to have the earliest Intimation, (& therefore I repeat the requests contained in my former Letters, that you will not fail to transmit to me by the speediest conveyance, what Intelligence you may Receive,) respecting the meeting of the proposed Congress in Europe, the result of their deliberation, or, if they should actually meet, what it is supposed that result will be—

<sup>9</sup> The success of the mission of Col. Laurens to the Court of France shows how correct was the judgment of the Governor in repeatedly urging that a special envoy should be sent. His confident prediction of the fall of Cornwallis was also justified, as the event proved.

<sup>10</sup> In the desperate need for money then existing in South Carolina, this plan of Governor Rutledge to obtain Indigo in South Carolina and ship it by wagons to Philadelphia seems to have met with great success. It was one of the results of his second visit to Philadelphia.

Commodore Gillon, in his Letter of the 28<sup>th</sup> April, forwarded in your last, desires that my Orders for him might be sent to Philadelphia, as He should not, on his arrival in America, take any steps without them, but, really, He has made such a strange disposition of his Cargo, by giving up to Col<sup>o</sup> Laurens, at the first cost, two thirds of it, to be chosen by him, and obliging himself to reland the bulky Articles of naval Supplies, in order to afford as much freight as possible, and that free, for what Mr. Laurens should chuse to Ship, on continental account, that I expect He, (Gillon,) will bring a very inconsiderable Cargo—for, I presume, He will dispose of the naval Supplies, & that, tho' they would have yielded the greatest profit in America, they will not, in his situation, fetch, in Holland, what they first cost—That money I dare say will be all expended before He sails, &, I should not be surprized, if the pittance of the Cargo then remaining should be broke in upon, for raising a further sum—I shall therefore, give no Orders, until I know that He does really bring—I hope, however, that the Vessel will not, on her arrival, be kept in port, an hour longer than may be necessary to fit her for such a Cruize, as, if successful, may compensate for what is past.

Nothing material has happened, between Us and the Enemy, since the battle of Eutaw—their main body is, at present, in St. Stephens Parish, at & about Murray's Ferry, & our Army is at this place.

I enclose for your information, a Copy of a Proclamation which I Have lately issued.

I am with great Regard

Gent.

y<sup>r</sup> most hble Serv<sup>t</sup>

J: Rutledge—

The Delegates of So. Carolina in Congress—

High Hills of Santee Oct. 12. 1781.

Gent—

I wrote to you, some Time ago, by one Robert Patterson, relative to a Schooner of his—I am now credibly informed, & verily believe, that he was not only an Addresser, (which he absolutely denied, alledging that another Man in C. Town, of the same name, was the person who subscribed the Address,) but that he was



King's Pilot in Geo: Town, & is a very great Scoundrel—Had I known these Circumstances, before he went away, I sh<sup>d</sup>. have put him into Goal, & applied his property, to the publick Use—but I gave so much Credit, to what he alledged, (& it really appeared reasonable, or, at least, very plausible,) that I suffer'd him to pass, believing him innocent—From what I then thought great Caution, I w<sup>d</sup>. not give him Bills for the vessell, untill I c<sup>d</sup>. made Inquiry respecting him—I had no doubt, however, in my own Mind that he w<sup>d</sup> prove, as he professed himself, innocent—It seems he is otherwise—I give you this Intimation, that you need not expect any such Bills, as I ment<sup>d</sup>., in that letter, I w<sup>d</sup>. draw upon the Contingency therein stated & with a further View, that you sh<sup>d</sup>., if you can, get him put into Goal, & his Property taken for the Benefit of this State—if this can be done, you will make the necessary Application, & take the proper Steps for that purpose—I am Gent,

y<sup>r</sup>. very hble Sert.

J: Rutledge

The Delegates of So. Carolina in Congress—

P.S. Ab<sup>t</sup>. 20<sup>th</sup>. our Types will not answer for a News Paper—which w<sup>d</sup>. be of great Service—they are mush too large, as you will see, by the inclosed Specimen—the press has been of great Use in printing Proclamations, Commissions, & Hand Bills—But, still, We sh<sup>d</sup>. have a News-Paper<sup>11</sup>—We want however nothing but Type—the Press w<sup>ch</sup>. we have w<sup>d</sup>. print half a Sheet on both Sides, & upon occasion (by taking up & re-setting the Types w<sup>ch</sup>. w<sup>d</sup>. be only double Trouble) a whole, or 4 pages—therefore, We need not be at any add<sup>l</sup>. Expense for any Thing but Types—I request therefore, that you will, immediately, procure Types sufficient & proper, for the purpose above ment<sup>d</sup>. & send 'em on as soon as possible—If we determine on calling an Assembly I shall (as soon as the Matter is fixed,) direct M<sup>r</sup>. Parker to bring on the publick papers which are in Maryland & he may bring the Types—But, the calling and Assembly may not perhaps take

<sup>11</sup> This printing press when fully equipped was of great use in restoring civil Government to South Carolina. It is sometimes stated that General Greene had also a printing press, but there seems to be no foundation for this statement.

place very soon—therefore, don't delay the Matter on that Acco<sup>t</sup>., but, procure the Types, immediately, (not too small, & of the sev<sup>l</sup>. different proper Sizes,—w<sup>ch</sup>. you can easily know from any Printer) & send them on, by the first good opportunity w<sup>ch</sup>. offers, (if any sh<sup>d</sup>.) before Mr. Parker comes—nothing new worth mentioning I expect Mr. Gadsden & his Company in a day or two.—

High Hills of Santee

Nov. 22. 1781—

Gent.—

No opportunity, from hence to Philad<sup>a</sup>., has offer'd, for a long Time—Since my last, I have rec<sup>d</sup>. your favour of the 28<sup>th</sup>. Sep<sup>r</sup>.—Cornwallis's Surrender is a very important Affair, but, I am exceedingly chagrined, & much disappointed, to find, that the French Fleet is not to proceed ag<sup>st</sup>. Cha<sup>s</sup>. Town—& that there is no prospect of any Attack on that place—I fear Clinton will soon reinforce Leslie, (who lately arrived there, but without Troops,) & wish the Aid ordered hither from Virginia maybe sufficient to enable us to keep the greater part of the Country—

I have issued Writs for Electing Members of the Legislature, on the 17<sup>th</sup>. & 18<sup>th</sup>. days of December, to meet at Camden,<sup>12</sup> on the 8<sup>th</sup>. Jany.

It appears absolutely necessary, that one of you Gent. sh<sup>d</sup>. be here, by the Time the Assembly is to meet, & I hope you will, on rec<sup>t</sup>. hereof, agree which of you shall come & that he will set out, immediately afterwards—I expect the Legislature will meet punctually, & do not imagine they will sit long, as I suppose they will only take up the most urgent Business—your Letter of the 28<sup>th</sup>. Sep<sup>r</sup>. alarms some Gent. of the Council very much—a personal explanation is much wished for—For many purposes, the presence of one of our delegates,<sup>13</sup> *as soon as the House meets*, is absolutely necessary—

A Quantity of Indigo is now on the Way to Philad<sup>a</sup>., on publick Account, &, probably, will arrive there, ab<sup>t</sup>. the Time this gets to Hand, or soon afterw<sup>ds</sup>—a few Days ago I wrt these Questions

<sup>12</sup> The meeting did not take place till January 18th at Jacksonborough.

<sup>13</sup> The delegate who came on to attend the meeting of the Legislature was John Mathews, who was elected Governor, after General Christopher Gadsden had declined to serve.

to the Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>. & Council, for their Advice viz<sup>t</sup>. “1st. “To what Ammo<sup>t</sup>. shall be paid out of the Proceeds of this Indigo, to our Friends, who have been sent to Philad<sup>a</sup>.? To whom, or under what descriptions particularly—& under whose Direction?—2 dly. whether any & what Sums shall be paid to our Delegates?”—Their opinions were “That the Assistance be extended only to “such as will come forward—that any Sum not exceeding two “hundred Silver Dollars be lent, on the State’s Acco<sup>t</sup>. to equip “such as declare, upon honour, they intend immediately to come forward.” & that this matter be under the “Direction of our Delegates”—“That our Delegates continue to receive, not exceeding 200 Dollars pr. Month, from Congress, so long as that Allowance is made them, but, should Congress refuse that Assistance, “then that they be allowed a Sum not exceeding 500 Dollars, each, out of the Proceeds of the Indigo, which Sums, the distressed Situation of our State makes it absolutely necessary “that they be as economical of, as possible, letting the State “know, in Time, before it is all expended, that they may have a “fresh Supply sent, before wanted”—I have therefore desired Mr. Ross, to whom the Indigo is addressed, to pay a Sum not exceeding 200 Dollars, to each of our Inhabitants, now at Phil<sup>a</sup>., who really proposes coming on hither, immediately, & may have Occasion for Money, in whose favour you draw on him—& that such persons may set off as soon as possible, I have desired Mr. Ross, to advance for this purpose, what money Mrs. Rutledge may not want, at present out of what may arise from Sale of some Indigo which I have sent to Philad<sup>a</sup>, for the Support of my Family—I have also directed him, to pay to each of our Delegates, who may apply to him for it, 500 Dollars—So that, if Congress sh<sup>d</sup>. refuse to continue the present Allowance, you may obtain the sum above-ment<sup>d</sup>. from M<sup>r</sup>. Ross—The Publick is intitled, by contract, to bring back 1000 W<sup>t</sup>., in each of the 19 Waggons, which are gone, with Indigo, to Phil<sup>a</sup>.—I have desired M<sup>r</sup>. Ross, to load ‘em, with Sugar, & Coffee, & an Assortment of the most useful and necessary Medicines, after taking in what you may desire to send—We are in great want of Arms & Ammunition, for our Militia—I therefore request, that you will use your best Endeavours to obtain, from the Continental Magazine, on Acc<sup>o</sup>. of the State, & expressly for its Use, & subject to the order & disposition of the Executive (to be used by the Militia) a good Sup-

ply of Muskets, with Bayonets, & of Musket Powder & Lead—I have frequently mentioned to you, how destitute We are of these Articles—& how impossible it is to procure them here—of 190 men, of Pickens's Brigade, now at Congaree, there are not above 50 with Arms—The Brigadiers are continually crying out to me, for Arms & Ammunition—They are often without a single round pr Man—Some Times, indeed, We can get a little from the Continental Stock here, but, often, not a Grain, that being, in general, very scanty—you'll observe it is my Intention, to have this Supply on Acc<sup>ts</sup>. of, & charged to the State, for the Use of the Militia, & to be totally independent of & not subject to the Controul of the Cont<sup>l</sup>. Commanding Officer—If you cannot get it on these Terms, desire Mr. Ross to purchase 4000 W<sup>t</sup>. Lead—the same Quantity of Musket powder, & a Barrel of Flints, on Acco<sup>t</sup>. of the State, & send 'em in some of the Waggon.

I request, that you will not detain the Bearer, above a day or two at Philad<sup>a</sup>, that you will write to me, fully, by him, & let me know, which of you We may expect to see, at Camden, & when—Nothing material has happened here, since the Battle at Eutaw—The Gen<sup>l</sup>. writes to Congress by the Bearer, (whom I send Express,) I therefore refer you to the official dispatches, for military Informa<sup>n</sup>—M<sup>r</sup>. Ross is directed to apply the Surplus of Money w<sup>ch</sup>. may arise from the Indigo, towards purchasing Cont<sup>l</sup>. Money, & sinking this State's Quota of it—I can't conceive it possible, that our Citizens have in their possession, the whole or even the greatest part, of our Quota, which I think, is Eighteen Millions of Cont<sup>l</sup>. Dollars nor do I understand whether you mean by "our citizens" persons who are now in C. Town, But with<sup>t</sup>. doubt, any who are in Philad<sup>a</sup>. sh<sup>d</sup>. have an opportunity, if they, chuse to part with their paper, for other Money, at the same rate that We can get Cont<sup>l</sup>. money for, from others, to do so—you may easily find out what Amo<sup>t</sup>. our Friends there have, & get 'em accommodated in this respect—be pleased to confer with M<sup>r</sup>. Ross, on this point, in which, however, the greatest Secrecy, & good managem<sup>t</sup>. will, I hope, be observed—with respect to the Loan Office Certificates you mention, M<sup>r</sup>. Drayton wrote to me, lately, from Hillsborough that Mr. Gibbes left with him, Certificates filled up, (to be subject to my order) for 130,000 Dollars & blank Cert. for ab<sup>t</sup>. 500,000—all of which were stolen, & carried off, by his Servant, who took every Thing he c<sup>d</sup>. carry & went to the

Enemy. I have appointed Major Barnwell, to Command a Brigade consisting of Hardens, Staffords, (formerly Gardens,) & Wilkinsons) (lately Hayne's) Regiments—

I am with great Regard

Gent.

yr. most obed<sup>t</sup>. Ser<sup>t</sup>

J. Rutledge—

P.S. Be pleased to give M<sup>r</sup>. Richard Hampton,<sup>14</sup> every assistance which may be proper, & necessary, for getting his Acco<sup>ts</sup>. settled—& take the Trouble of enquiring, whether M<sup>r</sup>. Justice Burkes Trunk of Cloaths left at M<sup>r</sup>. Gadsden's is still at Phil<sup>a</sup>; & if it is have it sent on by one of the Waggon's under Chisolme's Care—direct M<sup>r</sup>. Ross to send 20 Rheams of Paper—and the Types I wrote to you for some Time ago—If M<sup>r</sup>. Timothy does not come on w<sup>th</sup>. his Press Paper types &c.

P.S. Be pleased to send pr Bearer all such Resolves of Congress as it may be necessary to lay before our Legislature at their next Meeting—I have extended the time for granting Pardon, (on the Cond<sup>ns</sup>. ment<sup>d</sup>. in my Proclam<sup>n</sup>. of Sep<sup>r</sup>.) to such as have surrend<sup>d</sup>., or as shall surrender, before the 17<sup>th</sup>. of Dec<sup>r</sup>.—but I never expected much Good from it, & I expect less than Ever, when it shall be known that the French Fleet is not coming ag<sup>st</sup>. C. T.—This is a cursed Affair—

The Delegates of So. Carolina—

Jacksonborough<sup>15</sup> Jany-29. 1782

Gent.—

The General Assembly met here, on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Instant—I gave them a Speech, & rec<sup>d</sup>. Addresses in Answer—all of which shall be forwarded to you, pr. Express, as soon as they are printed which they will be in a few days; the Printer is just going to work. I

<sup>14</sup> A brother of Col. (afterwards Gen.) Wade Hampton. He commanded one of the regiments of "State Troops."

<sup>15</sup> Jacksonborough was the only place not in the hands of the British where the Legislature could assemble on the Coast. It contained according to the Diary of Lieut. Anthony Allaire, a British officer, which is printed as an appendix to Draper's "Kings Mountain and its Heroes" (page 487) about "sixty houses" and he says "the most of the houses are very good." There were also a number of large warehouses for storing rice. General McCrady has fallen into error in stating that it was a village with "two or three small houses" (McCrady, 1780-1783, page 560).

have some reason to believe that Manuscript Copies of those Papers will go, by this Conveyance, to Philadelphia—& as I imagine they are very incorrect, I request, that one of you will take the Trouble of sending to every Printer in the City, & desire that he will not publish any of 'em, but wait, untill you receive authentick Copies—w<sup>ch</sup> you soon will—The Assembly have been sitting every day since the 18<sup>th</sup>—& have rec<sup>d</sup>. no Interruption from the Enemy—I hope they will give us none—Indeed I don't think they will attempt any—This day the Legislature proceeded to the Choice of a Governor<sup>16</sup> & Lieut<sup>t</sup>. Gov<sup>r</sup>.—Mr. Gadsden was elected Governor, but declined—Mr. Mathews<sup>17</sup> was then chosen Governor, & Mr. Hutson Lieu<sup>t</sup>. Governor—they will qualify to Morrow—when the other Officers, of Councillors, Sheriffs, Ordinaries, Justices &c—will be chosen—Filling up our Cont<sup>l</sup>. Line, a Militia Law, & an Act for confiscating some Estates, are the great points before the House, but, little Progress is as yet made in them—Both Houses have voted Thanks, in the handsomest Manner, to Gen<sup>l</sup>. Greene & the House of Representatives nem. con. ord<sup>d</sup>. a Bill to be brought in, empowering the Executive to purchase an Estate, in this Country, of the Value of Ten Thousand Guineas, for him, in Return for his Services

I am with great esteem                      Gent

yr. most Obed<sup>t</sup>. Ser<sup>t</sup>.

J: Rutledge

#### The Delegates of So. Carolina

<sup>16</sup> Under the Constitution of South Carolina of 1778 the Governor could not be re-elected. It was a misfortune to the State that he did not continue at the head of the Government till the end of the War. He was however chosen as a Delegate to the Continental Congress, where he took a leading part. The State of South Carolina is under great obligations to Gen. McCrady for setting out so clearly in his volumes covering the Revolutionary War the services of Sumter, Marion, Pickens, Harden and other State officers, but he has done scant justice to Governor Rutledge and the Continental officers. The writer of these notes can find no justification for his steady depreciation of the services of Gen. Greene, valued so highly by the patriots who were his contemporaries.

<sup>17</sup> The Jacksonborough Assembly gave the same powers to Governor Mathews as had been given to Governor Rutledge, but the situation of the State did not require him to use them.